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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	:	Before the Examiner:
Balaram Sinharoy et al.	:	Li, Aimee J.
Serial No.: 09/548,469	:	Group Art Unit: 2183
Filed: April 13, 2000	:	
	:	IBM Corporation
Title: USE OF SOFTWARE HINT FOR	:	Intellectual Property Law
BRANCH PREDICTION IN THE	:	11400 Burnet Road
ABSENCE OF HINT BIT IN THE	:	Austin, Texas 78758
BRANCH INSTRUCTION	:	

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's reasons for allowance, Applicants respectfully note that the amendment to claim 1 by including the limitation of "of a condition register" was only to clarify the subject matter and was not to overcome prior art. Similarly, the amendment to claim 39 was only to clarify the subject matter being claimed and not to overcome prior art. Applicants would further like to note that the Examiner's citation to particular passages in Applicants' Specification for the meaning of particular limitations is exemplary and that the meanings for such limitations are not to be limited to such interpretations. Applicants respectfully assert that claims 1-14 and 39-40 are also allowable for at least the reasons stated in Applicant's amended

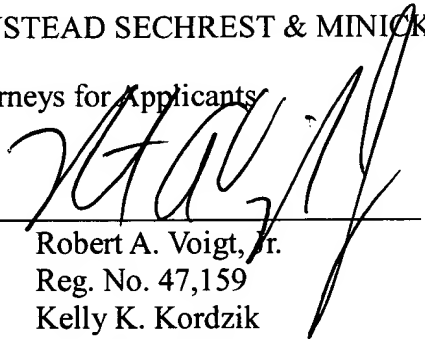
supplemental appeal brief submitted on April 6, 2005 as well as in prior appeal briefs and responses.

Respectfully submitted,

WINSTEAD SECHREST & MINICK P.C.

Attorneys for Applicants

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